



## Paddling during the Oman Summer

Despite the hot weather, Paddlers have been very active during the summer. Our social kayaking sessions on Thursday evenings were regularly attended and we saw a number of newcomers and beginners joining the team. In general the sea conditions were good, with some rougher days during which the most experienced kayakers and surfskiers were able to test their downwind abilities and have great fun on the waves created by the Khareef wind.

### Fahal Paddlesport Race



*Surfskis in the starting blocks for the Fahal Race*

A new edition of the now classic Fahal Paddlesport Race occurred on June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2019. Despite many people being already on holidays, the race gathered nine participants willing to beat the heat for a good time trial around Fahal Island. Kayaks and surfskis left the RAHRC beach early morning with hot temperatures but excellent sea conditions. Best time was established by Jan and Dirk on a double surfski (0:56:27), followed by Kif and Loïc reaching the beach within the same second on their single surfskis (0:57:22). Tom and Anna did a good race on their double kayak (1:30:20), followed by Todd who accomplished a great time on his single sit-on-top (1:41:16). The organization of this enjoyable event benefitted greatly from the help of Joe Bildstein, Chadia Volery and Denise Sanders taking care of the race registrations and of the time keeping.

Rank	S1 (Surfski single)		S2 (Surfski double)		T1 (Sit on Top single)		T2 (Sit on Top Double)	
1	James, Christopher	0:57:22	Gramkow, Dirk and Stammeijer, Jan	0:56:27	Woodford, Todd	1:41:16	Wigley, Thomas and Dixon, Anna	1:30:20
2	Bazalgette, Loic	0:57:22						
3	Sanders, Paul	0:59:57						
4	Hart, Mike	1:12:00						

June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Fahal Paddlesport Race results



Pictures from the Fahal Paddlesport Race on June 28<sup>th</sup> 2019: all photographs by Chadia

## Activities to come

*Thursday evening social paddle sessions:* The social paddle sessions will continue every Thursday and we expect to see more participants joining during the coming weeks with the end of the holiday season and the cooler temperature. Note that the sessions are open to attendees with all level of kayaking experience. *However good swimming abilities are mandatory.* Participants have to wear life vests and to carry a mobile phone in a waterproof poach during the paddling sessions.

*Weekend excursions:* Half to one-day excursions will be organized on some Fridays or Saturdays. Bandar Khairan, As Siffah or Ras al Abu Dawood Island are some of the destinations on the list. These activities will be restricted to experienced paddlers with a reasonable level of fitness.

*Fahal Paddlesport Race:* A second session of the Fahal Paddlesport Race will be organized on a weekend during the third or fourth quarter of 2019. Further announcements will be shared in due time. This event will be restricted to experienced paddlers with a reasonable level of fitness.



Please contact the RAHRC Paddlesport Section Committee (Loic, Diederik and Dirk) at [rahkayaksection@gmail.com](mailto:rahkayaksection@gmail.com)